MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) Government of Maharashtra have demanded a quota of 15,500 MT of edible oil per month in December, 1991.

(b) A quantity of 12000 MT imported Palmolein was allocated to Maharashtra during oil year 1991-92 (Nov. to Oct.). In addition, Maharashtra Government imported a quantity of 7807 MTs of Palmolein directly in 1992.

(c) The allocation of imported edible oil is supplemental in nature. It is allocated to States/UTs keeping in view the stock position of imported palmolien with State Trading Corpn. indigenous availability of edible oils and prices thereof, demand of all States and UTs etc.

Closure of fair price shops

3273. CHOWDHARY HARI SINGH : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DITRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of fair price shops in district Bulandshahar, Uttar Pradesh have been closed illegally during the year 1992; and

(b) the number of such fair price shops closed in the above district upto 4th March. 1993 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED) : (a) and (b) The information is being obtained from Government of Uttar Pradesh and will be laid on the Table of the House.

राशन विक्रेताओं में आक्रोश

3274. **श्री सोम पाल** : क्या **नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार का ध्यान, दिनांक 29 सितम्बर, 1992 के "राष्ट्रीय सहारा" में "खाद्यान्न आपूर्ति में हेराफेरी से राशन विक्रेता नाराज" शीर्षक से प्रकाशित समाचार की ओर दिलाया गया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो राशन विक्रेताओं को दिए जाने वाले गेहूं, चावल और चीनी की मात्रा में कमी करने के क्या कारण हैं और इसके लिए कौन-कौन से अधिकारी जिम्मेवार हैं; और

(ग) यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए सरकार द्वारा क्या कदम उठाए गए हैं कि भविष्य में दुकानदारों को ये वस्तुएं यथेष्ठ मात्रा में मिलें ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) और (ख) जी, हां । दिल्ली राज्य नागरिक आपूर्ति निगम, हर मास 10 से 12 लाख बोरियों की आपूर्ति कर रहा है। उचित दर दुकानों को पहुंचने वाली कुछ बोरियों में कम वजन की संभावना से इन्कार नहीं किया जा सकता ।

(ग) दिल्ली प्रशासन द्वारा उठाए गए कदम इस प्रकार हैं :—

(1) उचित दर दुकानदारों को, भारतीय खाद्य निगम के गोदामों में जा कर खाद्य वस्तुओं की क्वालिटी तथा वजन की जांच करने का अधिकार है ।

(2) बोरियां दिल्ली राज्य नागरिक आपूर्ति निगम के प्रतिनिधियों की मौजूदगी में तोली जाती हैं, जो भारतीय खाद्य निगम के गोदामों से उचित दर दुकानों के दरवाजों तक खाद्य वस्तुओं की ढुलाई करता है ।

(3) बोरियों में कम वजन होने तथा खराब क्वालिटी की शिकायतें 72 घंटों के भीतर मंडल कार्यालयों में

दर्ज करानी होती है । खाद्य एवं नागरिक आपूर्ति विभाग के अधिकारी प्रत्येक शिकायत की छानबीन करते हैं । मतभेद वाले मामलों की जांच एक समिति द्वारा की जाती है, जिसमें खाद्य एवं नागरिक आपूर्ति विभाग, दिल्ली राज्य नागरिक आपूर्ति निगम तथा भारतीय खाद्य निगम के अधिकारी एवं उचित दर दुकानधारियों के संगठन के प्रतिनिधि होते हैं ।

Flaws in Public Distribution System

3275. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH : Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state :

(a) whether any flaws in the present Public Distribution System have come to Government's notices, if so, what are the details in this regard;

(b) what steps Government have so far taken or propose to take to make the Public Distribution System more efficient; and effective; and

(c) whether Government propose to further strengthen or widen the public distribution system in the country, if so, what are the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS & PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) The strengthening and streamlining of the Public Distribution System (PDS) is a continuous process. Matters connected with the implementation of PDS are discussed at the meetings of the Advisory Council on PDS held regularly. The progress achieved and the difficulties encountered in the implementation of PDS are discussed. After discussion at the 13th meeting of Advisory Council on PDS held in August, 1991 and the Chief Ministers' meeting held in October, 1991 the Government initiated steps to improve the reach of the PDS in far-flung, hilly, remote and tribal areas etc. The Government launched a scheme to revamp the PDS for which about 1700 Blocks in the country covered by various area specific programmes were identified. State Governments were asked to take action in this regard.

Substantial progress has been made in the implementation of some points such as opening of fair price shops, issue of additional ration cards and creation of storage capacity. Many State Governments have also made arrangements for door step delivery of PDS items and have reported setting up of village/fair price shop level Vigilance Committees for monitoring the supply and availability of PDS items at fair price shops. Central Government has earmarked 2 million tonnes of foodgrains per annum to be allocated to the RPDS Blocks in addition to the allocation already being made to these Blocks in the past by the State Governments/U.T. Administrations concerned. The Central Issue Prices (CIPs) of foodgrains issued to RPDS Blocks are lower by Rs. 50/- per quintal than the CIPs for normal PDS.

Privatisation of Coal Distribution

3276. SHRI GOPALSINH G. SOLANKI : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government have moved towards free distribution of Coal in the country and allowed private trading in this vital commodity under a new distribution scheme;

(b) what are the current rates of each quality of coal in India, State-wise, and the quota allocated to each State by the Central Government;

(c) what are the contents and benefits of the new coal distribution policy and whether Government propose to issue new licences for the scheme; and

(d) what are the details of criteria for obtaining Licence for wholesale trade in coal and the terms and conditions of the